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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Examiner: Group: Attorney Docket # 1770

Applicant(s) : KOELLE, G., ET AL

Serial No. :

Filed :

For : DRIVE TRAIN FOR A MOTOR VEHICLE

SIMULTANEOUS AMENDMENT

October 18, 2001

Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

S I R S:

Simultaneously with filing of the above identified application
please amend the same as follows:

In the Claims:

Cancel all claims without prejudice.

Substitute the claims attached hereto.

REMARKS:

This Amendment is submitted simultaneously with filing of the above identified
application.

With the present Amendment applicant has amended the claims so as to eliminate
their multiple dependency.

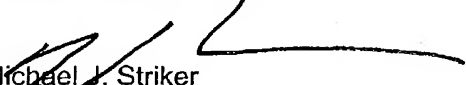
10030871-104901

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Consideration and allowance of the present application is most respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


Michael J. Striker
Attorney for Applicant(s)
Reg. No. 27233

10030871-101001

Claims

1. A drive train for a motor vehicle, having an internal
5 combustion engine (1), having an electric machine (2), which upon
starting of the engine (1) generates a torque, and having a
clutch (3), which is disposed between the engine (1) and a gear
train (4) by way of which a torque generated by the engine (1)
can be transmitted to at least one vehicle drive wheel,
10 characterized in that means (5, 6) are provided, which upon
starting of the engine can actuate the clutch (3) in such a way
that a first part of the torque generated upon starting of the
engine by the electric machine (2) is transmitted to the at least
one vehicle drive wheel, and a second part of the torque
15 generated by the electric machine (2) and sufficient for starting
the engine (1) is transmitted to the engine (1).

2. The drive train of claim 1, characterized in that the
means include a control device (5).

3. The drive train of [one of the foregoing claims]
20 claim 1, characterized in that for the control device (5),
temperature- and/or rpm-dependent performance graphs for the
drive torque of the engine (1) and/or for the starting torque
and/or for the clutch engagement moment, which is predominantly
25 dependent on the clutch engagement travel, are used.

4. The drive train of [one of the foregoing claims]
30 claim 1, characterized in that the performance graphs are varied
adaptively.

5. The drive train of [one of the foregoing claims]

claim 1, characterized in that the means include a regulating device (5).

6. The drive train of [one of the foregoing claims]
5 claim 1, characterized in that the regulating device regulates the torque, transmitted upon starting of the engine (1) by the electric machine (2) to the at least one vehicle drive wheel, in such a way that rotational irregularities of the engine (1) upon starting of the engine (1) are decoupled from the at least one
10 vehicle drive wheel.

7. The drive train of [one of the foregoing claims]
15 claim 1, characterized in that the decoupling of the rotational irregularities is effected at least until such time as the engine (1) has reached an rpm at which it is capable of outputting power.

8. The drive train of [one of the foregoing claims]
20 claim 1, characterized in that the regulating device regulates the torque, transmitted upon starting of the engine (1) by the electric machine (2) to the at least one vehicle drive wheel, in such a way that the motor vehicle is kept at a stop until the engine (1) has reached an rpm at which it can output power.

25 9. The drive train of [one of the foregoing claims]
claim 1, characterized in that the sensors are provided, which detect an exceptional state in which the motor vehicle, because of external forces, would undesirably put itself into motion, because the torque transmitted upon starting of the electric
30 machine to the at least one vehicle drive wheel is too low to prevent the unwanted motion of the motor vehicle.

10. The drive train of [one of the foregoing claims]
claim 1, characterized in that the exceptional state detected by
the sensors is indicated to the driver.

5 11. The drive train of [one of the foregoing claims]
claim 1, characterized in that a vehicle brake is provided, which
is actuated automatically upon the occurrence of the exceptional
state.

10 12. The drive train of [one of the foregoing claims]
claim 1, characterized in that the vehicle brake is automatically
released when the engine (1) has reached an rpm at which it can
output power.

15 13. The drive train of [one of the foregoing claims]
claim 1, characterized in that the regulating device regulates
the torque, transmitted upon starting of the engine (1) by the
electric machine (2) to the at least one vehicle drive wheel, in
such a way that the motor vehicle puts itself in motion, before
20 the engine (1) has reached an rpm at which it can output power.

25 14. The drive train of [one of the foregoing claims]
claim 1, characterized in that the means include an automatic
clutch (6), which actuates the clutch (3).

30 15. The drive train of [one of the foregoing claims]
claim 1, characterized in that the regulating device (5) triggers
the automatic clutch (6).

30 16. The drive train of [one of the foregoing claims]
claim 1, characterized in that an automatic start-stop control is
provided, which can stop the engine when the motor vehicle is

stopped and re-start it for driving on again.

17. The drive train of [one of the foregoing claims]
claim 1, characterized in that only in stop and go operation of
5 the motor vehicle, but not the first time an engine is started on
a given trip, the first part of the torque generated upon
starting by the electric machine (2) is transmitted to the at
least one drive wheel.

10 18. The drive train of [one of the foregoing claims]
claim 1, characterized in that the electric machine (2) is a
starter.

15 19. The drive train of [one of the foregoing claims]
claim 1, characterized in that the electric machine (2) is a
starter-generator.

10030871-104904
TOPOT-128000

Claims

1. A drive train for a motor vehicle, having an internal combustion engine (1), having an electric machine (2), which upon starting of the engine (1) generates a torque, and having a clutch (3), which is disposed between the engine (1) and a gear train (4) by way of which a torque generated by the engine (1) can be transmitted to at least one vehicle drive wheel, characterized in that means (5, 6) are provided, which upon starting of the engine can actuate the clutch (3) in such a way that a first part of the torque generated upon starting of the engine by the electric machine (2) is transmitted to the at least one vehicle drive wheel, and a second part of the torque generated by the electric machine (2) and sufficient for starting the engine (1) is transmitted to the engine (1).

2. The drive train of claim 1, characterized in that the means include a control device (5).

3. The drive train of claim 1, characterized in that for the control device (5), temperature- and/or rpm-dependent performance graphs for the drive torque of the engine (1) and/or for the starting torque and/or for the clutch engagement moment, which is predominantly dependent on the clutch engagement travel, are used.

4. The drive train of claim 1, characterized in that the performance graphs are varied adaptively.

5. The drive train of claim 1, characterized in that the means include a regulating device (5).

6. The drive train of claim 1, characterized in that the regulating device regulates the torque, transmitted upon starting of the engine (1) by the electric machine (2) to the at least one vehicle drive wheel, in such a way that rotational irregularities of the engine (1) upon starting of the engine (1) are decoupled from the at least one vehicle drive wheel.

7. The drive train of claim 1, characterized in that the decoupling of the rotational irregularities is effected at least until such time as the engine (1) has reached an rpm at which it is capable of outputting power.

8. The drive train of claim 1, characterized in that the regulating device regulates the torque, transmitted upon starting of the engine (1) by the electric machine (2) to the at least one vehicle drive wheel, in such a way that the motor vehicle is kept at a stop until the engine (1) has reached an rpm at which it can output power.

9. The drive train of claim 1, characterized in that the sensors are provided, which detect an exceptional state in which the motor vehicle, because of external forces, would undesirably put itself into motion, because the torque transmitted upon starting of the electric machine to the at least one vehicle drive wheel is too low to prevent the unwanted motion of the motor vehicle.

10. The drive train of claim 1, characterized in that the exceptional state detected by the sensors is indicated to the driver.

11. The drive train of claim 1, characterized in that a

vehicle brake is provided, which is actuated automatically upon the occurrence of the exceptional state.

12. The drive train of claim 1, characterized in that the vehicle brake is automatically released when the engine (1) has reached an rpm at which it can output power.

13. The drive train of claim 1, characterized in that the regulating device regulates the torque, transmitted upon starting of the engine (1) by the electric machine (2) to the at least one vehicle drive wheel, in such a way that the motor vehicle puts itself in motion, before the engine (1) has reached an rpm at which it can output power.

14. The drive train of claim 1, characterized in that the means include an automatic clutch (6), which actuates the clutch (3).

15. The drive train of claim 1, characterized in that the regulating device (5) triggers the automatic clutch (6).

16. The drive train of claim 1, characterized in that an automatic start-stop control is provided, which can stop the engine when the motor vehicle is stopped and re-start it for driving on again.

17. The drive train of claim 1, characterized in that only in stop and go operation of the motor vehicle, but not the first time an engine is started on a given trip, the first part of the torque generated upon starting by the electric machine (2) is transmitted to the at least one drive wheel.

18. The drive train of claim 1, characterized in that the electric machine (2) is a starter.

19. The drive train of claim 1, characterized in that the
5 electric machine (2) is a starter-generator.

10030874-101904